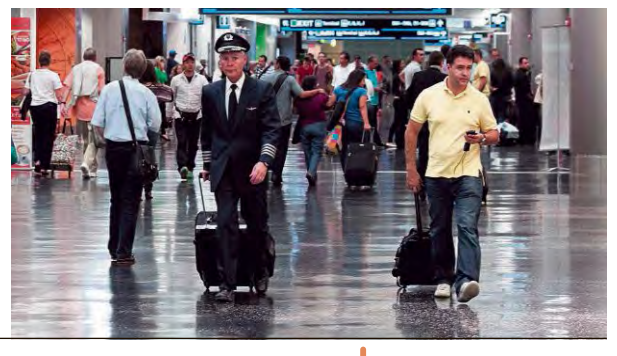
NATION

Gitmo judge sends Marine general lawyer to 21 days confinement 14A

BUSINESS

County may refund $1 million in rent to airport shops after Irma 10A



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WINNER OF 22 PULITZER PRIZES

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 2 2017

$2

Partly cloudy 81°/70° See 10B

Miami Herald

H1

PUERTO RICO

DAVID SANTIAGO dsantiago@miamiherald.com

Good Samaritans from the town of Isabela form a prayer circle with residents of the Río Abajo neighborhood on Friday in Puerto Rico. Residents have renamed Río Abajo as the 'Camp of the Forgotten Ones,' after Hurricane Maria wiped out a bridge, cutting off the area.

IN TOWN OF 'THE FORGOTTEN,' RESIDENTS BARELY HANG ON

The Río Abajo neighborhood in Puerto Rico's central mountain region has been cut off from the rest of the world after Hurricane Maria destroyed the only bridge connecting the area to the nearby town of Utuado.

BY KYRA GURNEY
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UTUADO, PUERTO RICO

The cluster of houses perched on a hill overlooking the Arecibo River in Puerto Rico's central mountain region used to be known as Río Abajo.

Then Hurricane Maria hit, turning the river into a ferocious torrent that wiped out the concrete bridge connecting the neighborhood to the nearby town of Utuado. For 15 days, as their water supply dwindled and their health worsened, residents waited for help to arrive. And when it didn't come, they baptized the neighborhood with a new name: El Campamento de los Olvidados, the Camp of the Forgotten Ones.

Now, at the edge of the broken bridge, a Puerto Rican flag flaps in the wind. Below it, on

SEE THE FORGOTTEN, 2A

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Brothers Saul Aldarondo, left, and Luis Aldarondo, and Mary Lopez fill a shopping cart with supplies that they will ferry over to the cut-off neighborhood of Río Abajo using a zip-line rigged out of cable.

MIAMI

Firefighters lose jobs over noose, obscene drawings on colleague's photos

Six Miami firefighters were fired Wednesday and five others are under scrutiny after someone hung a noose over a black colleague's family photo and drew lewd images on a picture of his wife.

BY DAVID SMILEY AND CHARLES RABIN
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Six Miami firefighters have been fired after someone hung a noose over a black colleague's family photo and drew lewd images on a picture of his wife.

The terminations, handed down Wednesday, follow a police investigation into the Sept. 9 incident at a city fire station. More than 20 people were interviewed under oath and nearly a dozen firefighters were investigated, including five who remain employed by the department and under scrutiny. Among those fired: William W. Bryson, the son of former Fire Chief William "Shorty" Bryson.

In a statement, Miami City Manager Daniel Alfonso said investigators uncovered "sexually explicit and racially offensive conduct" by the city's employees. He said personnel assigned to the station were transferred after the incident was reported, and 11 firefighters were relieved of duty with pay ahead of Wednesday's firings.

"We cannot and will not tolerate behavior that is disrespectful, hurtful and compromises the integrity of the department and the City of Miami," Alfonso said.

According to Jose Rodriguez, the

SEE FIREFIGHTERS, 2A

IN MY OPINION

Title game in Miami: a big win for Ross, and maybe the Canes

BY GREG COTE
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It is three seasons from now. If you believe the hopeful supposition that the Miami Hurricanes' ascending football program might realistically be a few seasons from truly being back — from being national championship back — then start dreaming, South Florida.

UM has won three of its five national titles (1983, 1987, 1991) in its home stadium.

It could happen again.

The chance of that, at least, arose Wednesday like fireworks over the Miami skyline, when the College Football Playoff unexpectedly awarded the 2021 national championship game to South Florida and Hard Rock Stadium. It will be the title game following the 2020 regular season, to be played on Jan. 11, 2021, the seventh championship game of the CFP era and first played here. Is that

SEE COTE, 2A

MORE INSIDE
Hard Rock picked to host 2021 national title game, 1B

FLORIDA LEGISLATURE

Miami Democrat becomes third lawmaker to resign in six months

BY PATRICIA MAZZEI
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Embroiled in a criminal case over her legal residency, state Rep. Daisy Baez resigned from the Florida Legislature on Wednesday, the first step in a deal with prosecutors that will also require her to plead guilty to perjury.

Investigators believe Baez, a Coral Gables Democrat, lied when she filled out a voter-registration form changing her address days before the November 2016 election. She claimed to live in her district, but investigators concluded she never paid rent or slept in the apartment.

Daisy Baez

Facing a potential third-degree felony for lying on an official form, Baez agreed to plead guilty to a similar misdemeanor charge and resign.

She lasted less than a year in the Florida Legislature.

Baez sent House Speaker Richard Corcoran, R-Land O'Lakes, a one-sentence resignation letter Wednesday morning: "Effective immediately, I am resigning my office as a member of the Florida House of Representatives,

SEE RESIGNATION, 2A

AMERICAS

U.S. and Cuba use U.N. stage to spar about embargo 13A

SPORTS

What is the running back plan for the Miami Dolphins? 1B

TROPICAL LIFE

This version of 'Our Town' has English, Spanish and Creole 1C

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